

## St. Joseph County Health Department

"Promoting physical and mental health and facilitating the prevention of disease, injury, and disability for all St. Joseph County residents"

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE **December 23, 2009** 

**CONTACT: Barbara Baker** (574) 235-9745 or Sarah Hall (574) 245-6743

## St. Joseph County January H1N1 Vaccine Clinics

ST. JOSEPH COUNTY- Health officials announce H1N1 vaccine clinics to be held in January. The St. Joseph County Health Department continues to offer vaccine at the Mishawaka office location on the listed dates and times, but has also scheduled extended hour clinics at the South Bend office location during the month of January to accommodate those who are not able to go to the Health Department or to their provider offices during the day.

Because of the success in reaching high-risk target populations and the abundant supply of vaccine now available, H1N1 vaccines are being offered to the general public. Of the doses shipped to St. Joseph County, 58% (over 37,000 doses) had been administered as of December 22. Health officials encourage all persons over the age of 6 months to be vaccinated.

The Mishawaka office of the Health Department will continue to provide H1N1 vaccinations on Wednesdays and Thursdays during the month of January, from 8:30 – 11:00 a.m. and 1:30 - 3:00 p.m. The South Bend office will only provide H1N1 vaccinations on the dates listed below.

The extended hour clinics will be located on the 9<sup>th</sup> floor of the County-City Building at 227 W. Jefferson Blvd. in South Bend on the following dates (see attached flyer):

- Thursday, January 7<sup>th</sup>, 8 AM 6 PM
  Thursday, January 14<sup>th</sup>, 8 AM 6 PM
- Thursday, January 21<sup>st</sup>, 8 AM 6 PM
- Thursday, January 28<sup>th</sup>, 8 AM 6 PM

Individuals can bring completed consent forms with them to shorten time at the clinics. Consent forms are available at:

http://www.stjosephcountyindiana.com/departments/sjchd/index.htm

Residents may also call their health care provider regarding vaccine availability. H1N1 Influenza Vaccines from the Health Department are free of charge.

Children through 9 years of age should get two doses of vaccine, about one month apart. The St. Joseph County Health Department continues to receive weekly shipments of novel H1N1 vaccine in St. Joseph County, distributing it throughout our local health care provider networks and offering it through the Health Department locations:

## • South Bend Location:

9<sup>th</sup> Floor County-City Building 227 W. Jefferson Blvd. South Bend, IN 46601 Thursday, January 7 8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. Thursday, January 14 8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. Thursday, January 21 8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. Thursday, January 28 8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

## • Mishawaka Location:

County Services Building 219 Lincolnway West Mishawaka, IN 46544 Wednesdays and Thursdays 8:30-11:00 a.m. and 1:30-3:00 p.m.

St. Joseph County health officials recommend individuals practice measures that can help protect against the flu by following the three C's: <u>clean</u> your hands often, <u>cover</u> your coughs and sneezes, and <u>contain</u> germs by steering clear of others who are sick and staying home if you are sick. Health officials also encourage other healthy habits such as getting plenty of sleep, eating nutritious foods, and drinking plenty of fluids.

For more information about influenza and vaccination please call United Way 2-1-1 or visit the Indiana State Department of Health website at www.in.gov/flu. The Department also offers a toll-free hotline for the public to call for information on the H1N1 flu and its vaccine at: 1-877-826-0011 or TTY 1-888-561-0044.

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